

Saucer Eyes See Flying Cups Ghosts or Gimmicks?

By JOSEPH V. PHILLIPS

Virginian-Pilot Staff Writer

PORTSMOUTH—I didn't believe in ghosts—until Saturday. I went to a house at 949 Florida Ave. and got goose pimples while dodging flying household objects that crashed to bits on the floor.

Reports had come into the newsroom Friday about the house—a carpet that rose eerily off the floor by itself, vases that jumped from mantelpieces and hurtled over people's heads, a mattress that slid mysteriously off a bed and onto the floor while a startled woman watched.

I didn't believe this nonsense, until Saturday. Now, I'm not so sure. I saw weird things happen, but I don't know what caused them.

While 200 people choked the street and yard in front of the home of Charles Daughtery and his wife Annie, I entered the house with a photographer.

Mrs. Marion Bivens of 2650 Glasgow St. then came in to ask about Daughtery's health.

He is suffering from high blood pressure and high sugar count.

"Did you feel the buffet move?" she asked me. We were

both standing against it, I didn't feel it move. She looked scared. Suddenly a vase I had just examined on a living room mantelpiece hit the wall in the hallway at the front of the house. It apparently had rounded a corner and crashed there under its own steam. There was no one in the living room.

We checked the living room again. There was no one there. We came out, and a cup from another buffet in the dining room crashed in the hallway at our feet. The photographer saw it hit and splatter in two dozen pieces toward us.

I ignored my goose pimples and a feeling of shock and rushed into the dining room.

(See Cup, Page 6)



Virginian-Pilot Photo by Abcurille

Mrs. Daughtery holds "haunted" objects.

Sept 9, 1962 Va. Pilot.